Preliminary Amendment Based on PCT/EP2004/053028

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): According to the present invention, there is provided a A process for converting animal fats and/or other feedstocks into gas oil fuel including the steps of:

introducing material including the animal fats into a still pot in the form of liquor,

extracting a volume of material from the still pot,

heating the extracted material to a cracking temperature,

reintroducing the extracted material back into the still pot,

separating the lighter molecular weight compounds from the cracked material into a small fraction of volatile light ends and a second mixture of gas oil fuel in a distillation column, and

collecting the second mixture of gas oil fuel by means of a condenser.

2. (currently amended): A process according to claim 1 wherein the extracted material is thermally cracked under pressure in a pyrolysis vessel to a mixture of lighter molecular weight gas compounds, before being reintroduced under pressure into

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the still pot.

- 3. (original): A process according to claim 1 wherein a volume of liquid is extracted from the still pot vessel, heated to above the cracking temperature while being kept at a sufficiently high pressure to remain in a balanced gas/fluid state and injecting the gas back into the still pot beneath the surface level of the liquid in the still pot.
- 4. (currently amended): A process according to any previous claim 1 wherein the extracted material is reintroducingreintroduced into the still pot below the level of liquor in the still pot.
- 5. (currently amended): A process according to either previous claim 1 wherein the feedstock is fed from a storage tank to a heating device prior to being fed into the still pot vessel.